

OMNE TRIUM PERFECTUM

(Everything that comes in threes is perfect)

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The essence of this old Latin rule is associated with perfection and satisfaction, but the expression is often used in a darker context: calamities, too, can come in threes, one compounding the other.

Since 2010, Greece has had enough of perfect such threes, for example, bailouts, memoranda, and ruinous “help” from the tottering EU; and public denigration by “partners,” threats from the IMF and other such august entities, and backroom plans for a Grexit.

More recently though the threes have steeply grown in negative and dangerous load: an invasion by illegal Moslem aliens from the Middle East and Africa pushed onto Greek shores by Turkey; a paralyzed EU hastily concocting plans to turn Greece into an open air storage of unwanted migrants by blocking one of its members northern border *with a non-EU member that is to be supported and augmented by EU resources to isolate Greece*; and, in recent hours, a half-baked decision to bring NATO into the desperate effort to stem the migrant flow into Western Europe. European voters are turning fast against their governments for bringing in throngs of alien humanity that would remain unassimilated and almost certainly become a source of severe economic drain and potential trouble. Hence the convenient tool of “mild” military intervention.

But, the well intentioned reader will ask, “Isn’t it a good thing for NATO, a military organization that gets things done, being directly involved in battling the human smugglers and saving lives, not to mention helping Greece with its humanitarian impasse?”

Unfortunately, well-intentioned queries such as this miss critical questions associated with such a hurried decision and its longer term implications for Greece. Let us set aside for the moment all the confident words of Greece’s “partners” happy to see a NATO naval force coming in to “help” and look at the facts.

FIRST: Greece, Turkey, the Aegean, and NATO never mixed in a positive, fruitful manner. It is an established Alliance norm that, in the interest of the “whole picture and Alliance

harmony,” Greece must accommodate Turkey’s “concerns,” whether real or imagined. Turkey’s demands for the abrogation of the Lausanne Treaty, and the apportioning of the Archipelago to its benefit, have occupied only sub-footnotes in Alliance deliberations – especially since Lausanne specifically provides that Turkey **has no claims to anything that lies past three nautical miles from its shores**. By practice and definition, therefore, anything that is NATO operated and involves questions of national sovereignty, rights of innocent passage, and Turkish claims upon Greek island territories could, and, most likely will be, hazardous to Greece’s sovereignty.

SECOND: Since this NATO decision was formed in the spur of the moment, nobody really knows what exactly has been agreed – or not agreed – about the mission profile, the rules of engagement, and other “details” that could actually turn into major issues. Predictably, of course, the Western press is already in self-congratulatory mode expounding on the positive load of this maritime patrol which, however, the NATO Secretary General warned, “is not about stopping or pushing back refugee boats.” This impeccably politically correct statement alone is enough to tell the weary observer that NATO in the Aegean will be wearing exclusively its “humanitarian” cloak with all the implications of such a move (the Italians, through their 2013-14 *Mare Nostrum* operation, have already enough experience on how any such maritime mission can easily turn into ‘a transport company for migrants,’ who see naval ships as the surest means of entering Europe illegally. *Mare Nostrum* brought an estimated 150,000 African and Middle Eastern illegals into Italy).

THIRD: Claims that Turkey has agreed to taking back illegals caught at the beginning of their journey to the Greek islands must be NATO’s awkward joke in this whole affair. Trusting, appeasing, and rewarding Turkey for what its erratic and increasingly combative Islamic president Erdogan wants to achieve is an act of fools and not policy-makers. But, beginning with Mrs. Merkel, European politicians cannot be accused of *not* having lost their bearings under pressure from the migrant invasion and the social turbulence in their countries; *anything* to appease and stroke the electorate is better right now than facing harsh truths –and Turkey’s subversive behavior and collusion with Islamic fanatics battling the Syrian regime that is naked for all to see *if*, of course, those who can see wish to behold.

FOURTH: The announced NATO deployment includes three warships. These are fleet assets designed for completely different purposes, namely combat in the open seas, anti-air operations, fleet defense, etc. One cannot but ask the obvious question of what these ships can accomplish better than the already deployed coast guard vessels and Frontex resources, both of which are vastly more capable in both operational, maneuvering, and mission-specific terms. The claim that the NATO ships would provide “better intelligence” is a poorly designed PR smokescreen. Admittedly, images of grey-green warships steaming proudly, their ensigns fluttering in the wind, and naval support aircraft crews looking intensely into their glowing, greenish radar screens, are manna from heaven for the networks. However, Turkish human smugglers are experts in their own waters, well connected with Turkish authorities, who make a bundle in bribes, and know the coastline like the back of their hand. Three warships and some aircraft interdicting dozens of miniscule targets under such conditions, in ways that can cut the migrant flow down to acceptable levels (if there is such a thing,) may be a nice tabletop game but, in real maritime terms, it is money thrown directly into the sea to appease the masses.

This is the worst possible time for Greece to get involved in the inevitable, renewed “negotiations” with NATO and Turkey over jurisdiction, the Aegean issues, and how to approach constant Turkish challenges and “near war” violations of both air and sea Greek territorial zones. These are issues on which NATO and the EU are silent for obvious reasons. But, like a thorn waiting to stab, these questions will *surface the minute Turkey begins to object on this or that aspect of the NATO operation* claiming that its “interests” are harmed as it will certainly do. Mr. Erdogan [has already warned](#) Europe’s liberal and indoctrinated ignoramuses that the Turks, “...do not have the word ‘idiot’ written on our foreheads” and that, at any time, he may open the gates and flood the Continent with 2.7 million Moslem illegal migrants. What European “leaders” do not exactly understand in this blunt arrogant statement, and thus continue to stroke Ankara as they supplicate on all fours for Mr. Erdogan’s help that is not forthcoming, remains a mystery.

With its economy broken, its banks all but extinguished, its people in uproar over increasing pressures from the creditors, its society in an uncontrolled downward spiral, its cities and towns soon to be overwhelmed by despairing Moslem aliens, its political “elites” involved in partisan cockfights and irrelevant personal squabbling, and the country’s administration moronic and dysfunctional, Greece has now to deal with NATO’s latest “stability” gift.

Political astronomers see already another swirling black hole forming in the failing Greek “Europhile” universe.